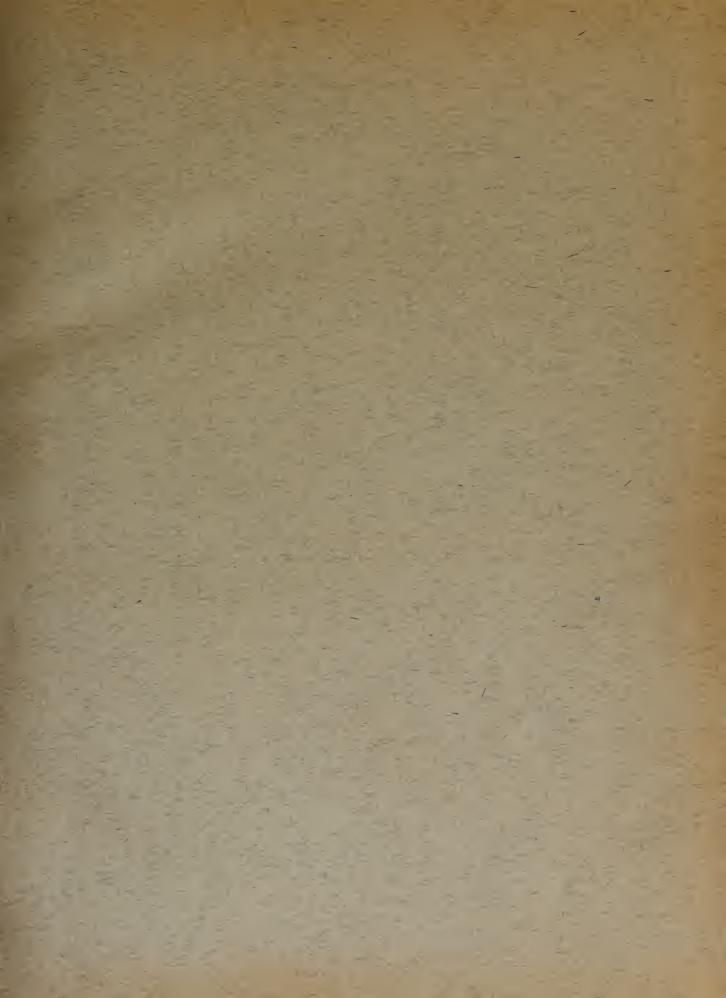
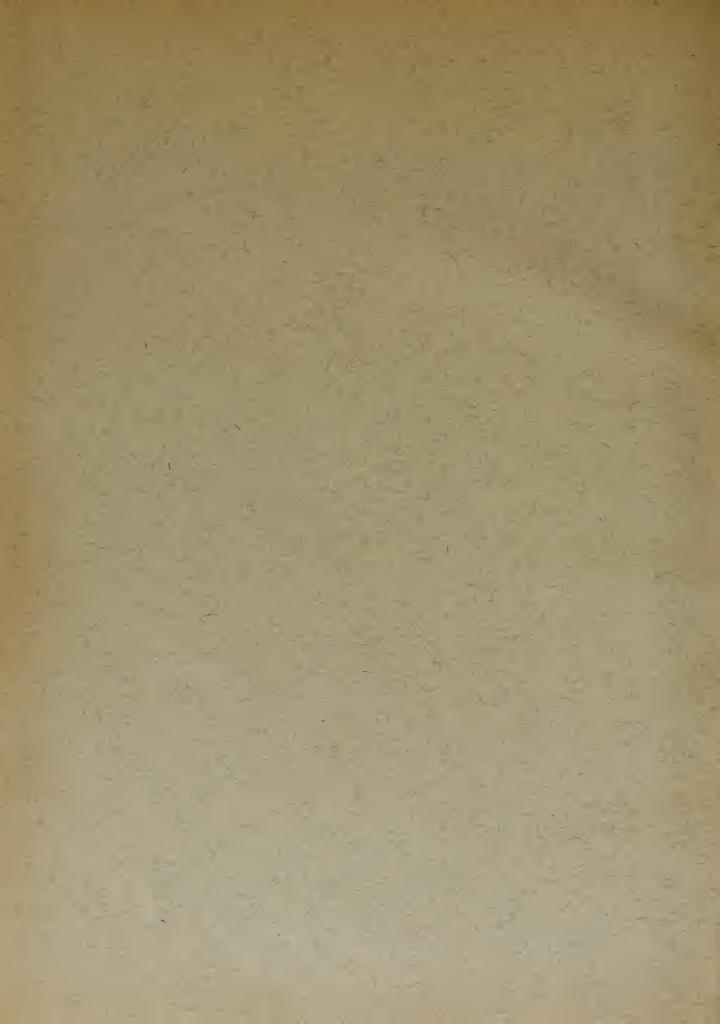
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OF GAS TURBINE BLADS COOLING

A THESIS

of the University of Minnesota

DHIGHT ON MISS

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements

for the

Degree of Master of Science

in

Aeronautical Engineering

August

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The author wishes to express his sincere appreciation to the following who aided in this study:

Professors B. J. Robertson, M. A. Hall, T. E. Murphy, and K. L. Neumeier of the mechanical Engineering Department, for their assistance, advice and suggestions.

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OBJECT AND SCOPE

The object of this thosis was to determine the feasibility of ecoling gas turbine blades by introduction of a controlled boundary layer of cool air over the blade surface.

This investigation included a static test of a single instrumented turbine blade in a variable high velocity, high temperature gas stream with variable cooling air flow. Two configurations of the test blade were used to produce variation in boundary layer control.

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INTRODUCTION

is being exerted to improve specific power output, to reduce specific fuel consumption and to increase reliability. The most promising field for the attainment of these objectives lies in increasing the turbine inlet temperature which is presently limited by permissible operating temperatures of blading materials. An investigation of the gas turbine thermodynamic cycle reveals the magnitude of improvement possible by increasing turbine operating temperatures. Such an investigation conducted by the NACA (Ref. 1) shows that for a given mass flow of working fluid the specific power output is proportional and the specific fuel consumption is inversely proportional to the inlet temperature. Fig. 1 illustrates this relation.

The increase of turbine inlet temperature, however, is limited by high temperature strength of blade materials. The development of high temperature metals is proceeding, but at a slow rate. How slowly metallurgical progress has been made is shown in Fig. 83 of Mef. 2. Allowable blade temperatures advanced from 1180° F. in 1955 to 1200° F. by 1940 and to 1385° F. by 1945. The rate of increase has been no greater since 1945.

Mon-metallic materials such as ceramics have yet to demonstrate their adaptability to the rigorous service

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requirements of turbine blading. As a result the use of some method of cooling the gas turbine blading presents itself as the method of allowing higher gas temperatures with present materials.

Jeveral methods of blade cooling have been proposed and evaluated. A discussion of these methods as related to this thesis follows.

Late model German turbojet engines such as the Jume 004 employed hollow turbine blade cooled internally by means of air blown into the root and exhausted at the tip. 1650° F. turbine inlet temperature was used with 7% of compressor air output required to cool blades approximately 400° F.

The NaGA has proposed (Ref. 1) an improvement to this method by inserting a core in the blade, leaving a small annular air passage. It was found that the heat transfer from blade to cooling air was principally in the boundary layer and adjacent cooling air so the insert permitted similar cooling with less air flow. Fig. 2 graphs the results of this improvement.

water through internal passages in the blade. This system of cooling has accomplished very large blade temperature reductions. German applications (Ref. 3) conducted by Dr. Schmidt permitted 850-930° F. blade temperatures with a gas temperature of 2200° F. Fig. 3 shows an MACA analytical

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investigation of water cooling which also gave considerable blade temperature reduction. It must be pointed out that while water cooling is very effective, the problems of handling the high temperature, high pressure water flow at high rates makes service application of this method difficult.

rim cooling, has also been tried. Here water is circulated through the rotor rim so as to extract heat from the blade root. Less temperature reduction is obtained and the disadvantages of the water coolant system still exist. Fig. 4 shows rim cooling effectiveness. It can be seen from the figure that having a blade material of high thermal conductivity, Km, is essential to this method.

basic principle of cooling. They do not inhibit the heat transmission to the blade, but do increase the internal conductivity, or removal of heat, thereby affecting cooling. The proposal of this thesis is to substitute a boundary layer of cool air over the blade's surface in order to inhibit the heat transmission from the hot gases to the blade.

A coating of high temperature ceramic of low conductivity would embody this same principle. Fig. 5 shows the effectiveness of ceramic coatings of various thicknesses. hile this is a very promising field insofar as temperature of operation is concerned, the inherent defects of brittlethreatignism of mater conting shield also gave necessary
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while mater conting to warp effective, the presence of the
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ness, thermal shock sensitivity and low tensile strength have obvioted service use of ceramic covered blading.

If a region of low thermal conductivity can be interposed between the gas and the blade, then the objective of blade cooling could be accomplished. The natural boundary layer on the blade is such a region. However, the natural boundary layer forms at the temperatures of the gas. In this experiment the use of relatively cool air from the engine compressor is suggested to form a lower temperature boundary layer.

The justification of this idea is based on one of the fundamental laws of heat transfer, <u>Faurier's</u> equation for conduction (Ref. 4). (Experience has shown radiation effects to be secondary). Stated mathematically for steady state conduction:

q * KA dt

where q = rate of heat transfer.

E = coefficient of thermal conductivity.

A = crossectional area of path.

dt = temperature gradient in direction of heat
dx flow per unit distance.

This law shows that for a given configuration the rate of heat transfer from gas to blade may be made by reducing K and/or dt.

R for air is reduced by reducing temperature.

This is shown mathematically from <u>Luchens</u> equation:

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$$K = K_{32} \frac{492 + 0}{1 + 0} (\frac{1}{492})^{3/2}$$

where T = absolute temperature

C = constant (.0129 for air).

532 * K at 320 F.

to blade, dt, is reduced by the use of the cool air condx trolled boundary layer. In fact, the cool air boundary layer will at first be lower in temperature than the blade so that the blade will transfer heat to the boundary layer. however, the temperature gradient from the hot gas to the boundary layer would be increased so it would be rapidly heated. The optimum configuration might therefore require a series of bleeds from the blade so the average temperature of the layer along the blade would be minimized.

In the author's experience a controlled boundary layer has been successfully employed to cool a liquid rocket nozzle. In 1936 the author collaborated in the construction of a liquid rocket meter in which a boundary layer of coolant air bled into the nozzle enabled prolonged operation. The nozzle was of mild steel yet endured the very high temperature rocket exhaust gases better than any contemporary nozzles of superior materials.

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TEST EQUIPMENT

Fig. 5 shows the complete test equipment layout schematically. The test blade was mounted in a closed test section supplied with hot gas from a single J-33 combustion chamber. Fig. 6 is a photograph of the test section mounted on the burner. Air was supplied to the burner from the compressor of a naturally aspirated Allison V-1710 engine, Fig. 7. The quantity of gas flow was regulated by throttling the Allison engine while its temperature was controlled by burner fuel pressure. The temperature of the blade was measured by two thermocouples. All control and measurement was done from the control panel adjacent to the gas turbine test cell. Fig. 8 is a photograph of the control panel. The air which formed the controlled boundary layer was supplied from the laboratory air main at regulated pressure. The quantity of cooling air was measured in a standard design sharp edged orifice meter, shown in Fig. 9.

June 004 turbine blade. Availability was the reason for selection of this blade. The "tinidur" type alloy (30% nickel, 14% chrome, 1.75% titanium, 18% carbon, balance, iron) possessed very difficult machining properties and low thermal conductivity. The blade roots were cut off flat for convenient mounting and the tip shortened by 3/4 inch

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Physical Assemblate that special special distribution of the contract beautiful and the contract beaut committeelly. The test When man country in a closed surv negligation for a light or most any few acts and included that shador. Fig. 6 Is a photograph of the test neglig manted on the bernier, the was supplied to the manuer from the assignment of a manufally implement little within anythm, City To the country of any they are required by tarvetshild the Alliana marine willy bin becoming our can controlled by severy feel orthogen, the imperented of the plant was CONSTRUCTION OF THE PARTY AND PARTY OF THE P was done 19 or the control jump offerent to the cur turbing tage orde. Fig. 2 to a philograph of his suctors plant, The air widen formed the controlled bounder Layer was muyclied from the Laurencery air main at regulated greeners. was bradenic at all invitation one was publicated for this own offer when wharp where suffice outper, about in Fig. T.

The boat place are soundarpoor from a sould desire the problem blace, considering one has described solication of this blace, the "theirest type alloy first office), led ourses, Little blaceing, in serving the level presented may difficult monitoling proportion and les the source our state and the size of the for source of the because of space limitations in the test section.

For the first test, configuration a was manufactured. In this blade the cooling air supply hole was drilled up the blade from root to 1/4 inch of tip through the thickest section. This hole was .20 inch in diameter. The air bleed holes (1/16 inch) were drilled from blade surfaces joining the supply hole. They were placed at a 45 degree angle with blade surface. There were six bleed holes to each surface. The exits were ground out with a fish tail countersink pattern to distribute the bleed air spanwise. A .15 inch hole was drilled up the leading edge for location of the thermocouple tip at midspan. The trailing edge was too thin to permit similar treatment so a 3/32 inch hole was drilled chordwise at midspan to snugly hold a thermocouple bead. The thermocouple was lead in in a stainless steel tube one inch downstream and bent 90 degrees and cemented in the trailing edge hole. Figs. 12, 13 and 14 show the thermocouple mounting. Fig. 10 shows the A blade between a standard blade and a shortened standard blade. The boundary layer is introduced at approximately the 30 chord point.

Configuration 5 blade is shown in Fig. 11. The boundary layer air supply was introduced through a .15 inch drilled passage 1/4 inch behind the leading edge. A 60 degree included angle slot was milled down the length of the leading edge and 3/32 inch bleed holes drilled joining the

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supply passage. In this design the cooling enters the slot opposed by stagnation pressure and flows out of the slot on both edges, forming the boundary layer.

The test section consisted of the blade mounting block shown in Fig. 13, and two side plates made of six inch channel. The bettom was closed with a 1/2 inch plate so that the hot gases which entered at the top were constrained to exhaust through the open side. The entrance and exit dimension are 5.5 x 4.5 inches. Fig. 12 pictures the complete test section. Fig. 14 shows another view of the blade mounting block. The test blade is centrally located with two parallel mounted standard blades to guide the flow.

Temperatures of the test blade were measured by 20 gauge chromel-alumel thermocouples which read on a brown recorder. The small size thermocouples provided fast response and use of standard sillimanite insulations in the blade. The insulators were ground slightly in diameter for mounting in blade. The thermocouple tips were firmly scated in 3/32 inch holes for maximum sensitivity to blade temperatures. The trailing edge thermocouple bead was buried completely to insure it would sense blade, rather than gas temperatures.

Compensated lead wires connected the thermocouples to the selector switch for the recorder to eliminate errors in readings by variation in ambient temperature. The gas

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temperature entering the test section, T_4 , was measured by a radiation shielded chromel-alumel thermocouple.

temperature materian the test souther, it, man assured by a radiation mighted sinceri-alone thereseesing.

THEY PROGLDUKE

The temperature of the test blade was read with and without cooling air flow under exactly similar flow conditions. This technique permitted comparison of the two temperatures obtained to show the blade reduction due to cooling air alons.

The Allison engine was first started and its speed set to obtain the desired flow rate of burner air. The flow rate was measured by means of the pressure drop across the orifice in the compressor inlet duct.

Next, combustion was initiated in the burner with the spark and acetylene flare and fuel pressure adjusted until desired gas temperature obtained. Then conditions stabilized temperatures and pressures were recorded. During runs with cooling air, the flow rate was varied in increments of 1/10 inch of water and temperature recorded when stabilized.

In order to investigate the cooling effects over a broad range of gas velocities three settings of the allison engine were used to give low, medium and high gas flow rates. However, the low flow rate is not included in this report as it was unrealistically low compared with actual turbine operation. The flow rate was below minimum idling rate for a J-33 engine.

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TEST RUBULTS

The results of the experiment are contained in tables I and II and the graphs, Figs. 16 through 19. The graphs are plotted to show temperature reduction versus weight of cooling air flow.

These graphs are similar in shape and show that
the reduction in blade temperature was approximately twice
as great in the leading edge as the trailing edge. This
is to be expected because of the increase in boundary layer
temperature resulting from heat transmission from the gas.
also, the thinness of the blade section near the trailing
edge effers more resistance to heat flow internally.

The graphs also show that the temperature reduction rate is greatest (the slope is maximum) at low cooling air rates. This is evidence that the boundary layer is established at low flow rates and is effective in reducing heat transfer. Beyond a flow rate of .2 lb./min. most of the graphs become straight line functions. This apparently results from thickening of the boundary layer and shows the insulating effect is proportional to the thickness. This effect conforms with Fourier's law. The cooling effectiveness, particularly at low flow rates, is greater with this method than the method of Fig. 2.

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To illustrate the cooling effectiveness consider the J-33 turbojet engine. Maximum cooling of 280 F. at 1600 F. gas temperature could be accomplished with only 25 of compressor air.

Configuration A produced more uniform results than those of configuration B, as can be seen by comparing Figs. 16 and 17 with 18 and 19. Configuration A curves plotted more parallel and gave results proportional to gas temperature, while configuration B curves intersect and are out of order with gas temperature increments. Configuration A probably gave more uniform boundary layer formation, since the flows were convergent rather than opposed. it was calculated that the stagnation point on the leading edge would fall in the milled slot so the cooling air would spill over both surfaces of the blade and form good boundary layers. From the non-uniform results at different flow rates stagnation point shifting may be indicated. Also, turbulence in the test section may have prevented uniform boundary layer formation and promoted mixing. It is believed that had the blade been manufactured with boundary layer control slots of the type used in airplane practice, such higher quality results would have been obtained. This type bleed was considered but discarded because of the machining problems, which would have required machining beyend shop capacity.

To illustrate the cooling effectiveness resident the death of the first of the second terms of the second

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Allison engine contributed to inaccuracy of data. A "hunting" of about fifty RFE occurred during much of the running, which produced 500 RFE variations in compressor speed. The variation in burner air flow caused drifting of gas temperatures.

Somparison of Figs. 16 with 17, and 18 with 19, shows cooling effectiveness variation with gas flow rate. Cooling effectiveness is greater at the lower flow rate. This is consistent with the laws of heat transmission by convection. The heat transfer from gas to blade increases with velocity.

From all graphs, the blade temperature reduction is shown to increase with gas temperature. This, also, is compatible with the laws of heat transfer, the dt term of dx fourier's equation increases so more heat is transferred to the cuter boundary layer. But, the heat transfer to the blade through the laminar sublayer is of such small magnitude that the net effect is greater blade temperature reduction.

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CUNCLUMIANS

In view of the limited scope of the experimental tests, no detailed quantitative conclusions can be drawn. However, the results obtained from the foregoing tests do support the following general conclusions:

- 1. The introduction of a boundary layer of relatively cool air on a turbine blade in a high temperature, high velocity gas stream inhibits the transmission of heat from the gas to the blade, more than through the natural boundary layer, and results in reduction of blade temperature.
- 2. The magnitude of the reduction in blade temperature is proportional to the weight flow of air introduced into the boundary layer up to the limit investigated
 of 25 of the gas flow in an equivalent full scale engine.
- 3. This method of blade cooling is feasible insofar as weight flow of cooling air required to accomplish useful blade temperature reduction is concerned.

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HISH AIR FLOW RUNS

COMPRESSOR RPM - 24,000

			GAS	TEMPS -			
COOLING AIR		800°F	1000°F	1200°F	1400°F	1600°F	
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	3.A. 16/SEC		2.845	2.83	2.71	2.59	
P3	11.1	14.8	15.0	16.1	17./	16.8	
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124	24.1	.72	.64	, 60	. 52	.50	
Pt		11.45	11.8	13.1	13.75	13.8	
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TEMP: COOLING AIR - 80°F PRESS: ATMOS

AMBIENT (T.CELLY 120°F AMBIENT (TEST

PRESS: ATMOS - 29.82 "ng
AMBIENT (TEST CELL)-21.50 "ng

TABLE I



OBSERVED TEST DATA

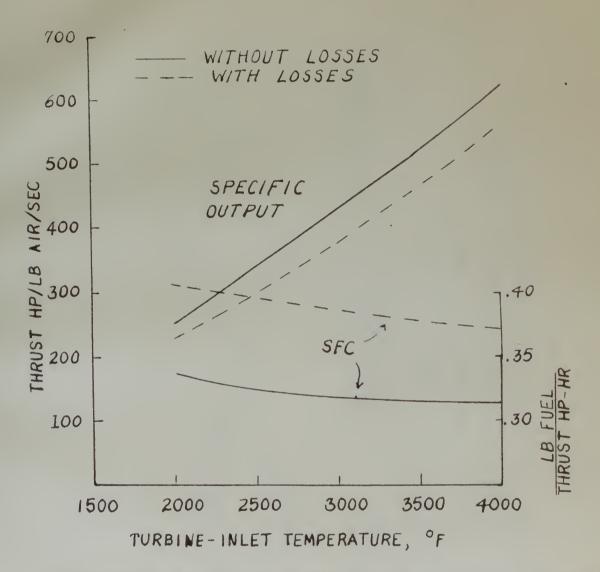
MEUDIN BURNER HIR FLOW RUNS

COMPRESSOR RIPIN - 13, 250

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COOLING 41 DP "hz		390°F TBLE T.R TBTE T.R.	1990°F TBLE T.R. TBTE T.R.	IZOOF IZOOF TBLE T.R. TISTE T.R.	1400°F TBLE T.R. TBTE T.R.	1600 °F TBLE T.R. TOTE T.R.	₹ ?
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.2	.345	710 07 150 35	815 100 150 50	1046 150 1121 13	1230/00/1345 10	1422 103 1540 50	
.3	.471	045 82 150 35	860 135 140 00	1035 100 1120 80	1202 188 1312 83	1388 117 1550 40	3 1
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,5	.726	610 101 150 55	235 100 740 00	1010 185 1120 80	1150 240 1300 15	1340 245 1550 40	6
. 6	.246	.55 162 150 35	325 110 740 00	785 210 1120 30	1135 255 1300 15	1315 210 1540 50	\)
. 7	.972	550 141 750 35	815 180 140 60	115 200 1120 50	1120 270 1300 15		
. 3	1.07	045 132 750 35	800 115 130 10	165 200 1120 80			Ç
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. 3	.471	032 88 700 23	831 173 725 20	1015 127 1110 37	1175 150 1275 45	1236 104 1450 30	5
. 4	.600	025 15 700 25	825 205 125 20	1000 142 1100 41	1120 255 1270 50	1275 215 1438 4-	X ;
.5	.726	605 115 075 30	800 230 715 30	105 111 1015 52	1103 217 1255 -7	1250 240 1425 55	3
. 6	.346						Ì
.7	.972	INSUFFIC	JENT COAP	KESSED HITE	30 PP LY		•
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)+ 10/nr	47	65	30	40	103	
	P8.A. "ny	1.05	. 15	. 33	, 83	. 85	
	B.A. IDISEL	2.16	2.06	1.18	1.12	1.89	
	P_3 "h ₃	7.1	7.8	₹. +	8.6	7. /	
	T3 "73		8.0	8.0	8. 1	1.3	
	04 "ny	. 8	. 55	• +	, 3 2	.30	
ŗ.	24 "75	5.8	5.3	0.55	6.45	7.35	
	F "175		5.25	o.15	6.00	7.05	
1	17	·+i+	. 3 20	• 551	. 515	0	
		TEMPS:	EDOLIN'S AIR	80° F	PESUS: A	TOTOSPHERIC	21.82 "1
			AMBIENT TEST US	4 120°F	4	MISICRIT PEST LELL	24.50 "A,





TURBOPROP ENGINE PERFORMANCE WITH +WITHOUT COOLING LOSSES. AIRPLANE SPEED, 500 MPH: MACH NO., 0.69; ALTITURE 30,000 FT. (Ref. 1)

Fig. 1



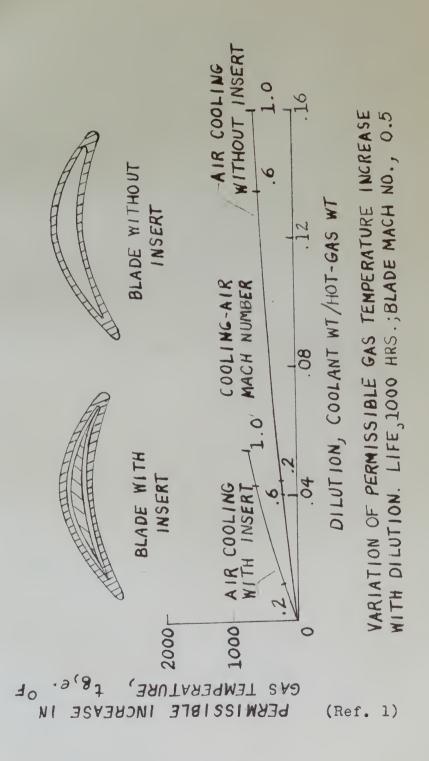
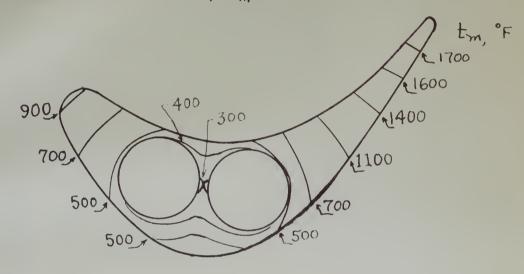
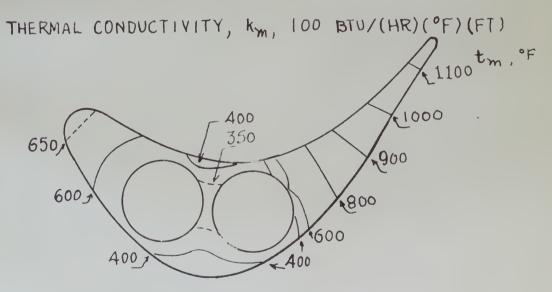


Fig. 2



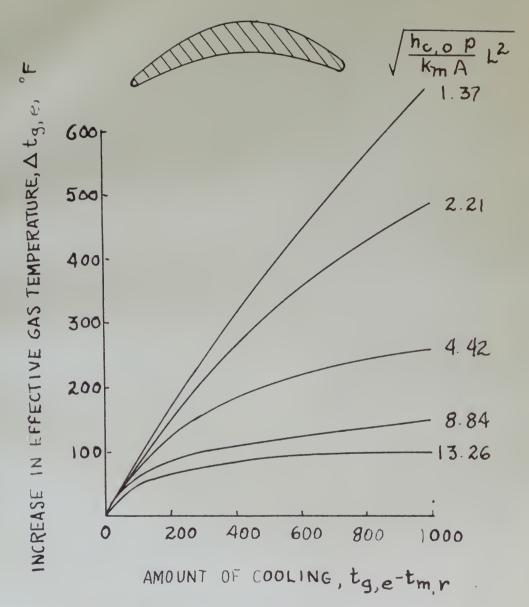
THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY, km, 15 BTU/(HR)(°F)(FT)





150THERMS IN BLADE SECTIONS OF DIFFERENT CONDUCTIVITY MATERIAL WITH LIQUID COOLING. GAS FLOW, 55 LB/SEC; WATER FLOW, 6.42 LB/SEC; GAS TEMPERATURE, 200° F. (Ref. 1)





VARIATION OF RIM COOLING EFFECTIVENESS.

MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE MACH NUMBER, 0.5.

(Ref. 1)

Fig. 4



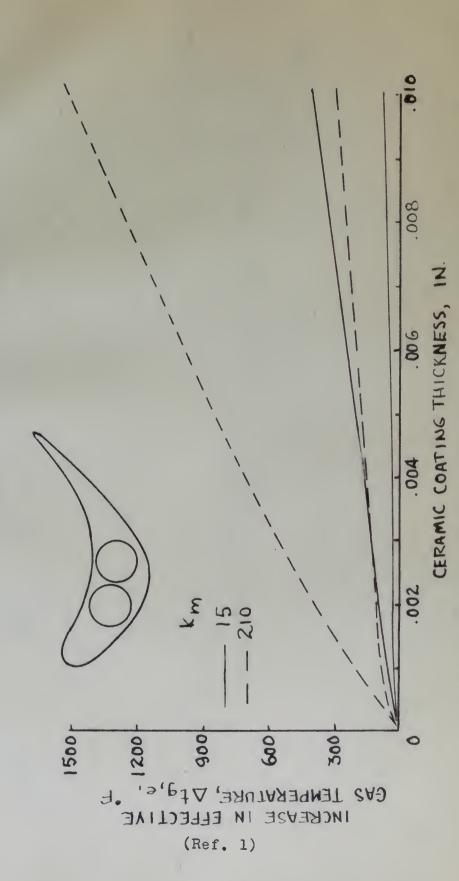
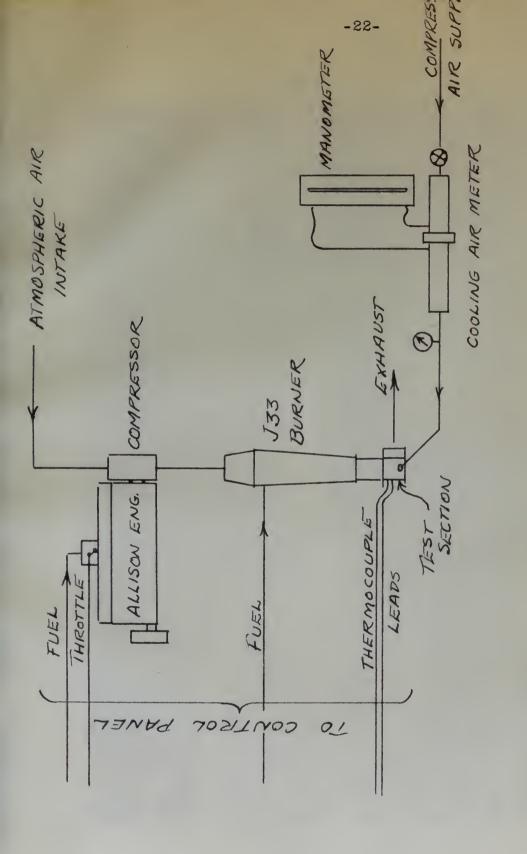


Fig.

5

COATING THICKNESS FOR TWO METAL AND CERAMIC THERMAL CONDUCTIVITIES. VARIATION OF INCREASE IN EFFECTIVE CAS TEMPERATURE WITH CERAMIC





SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM OF COMPLETE TEST LAYOUT

Fig. 6





TEST SECTION MOUNTED ON BURNER

Fig. 7



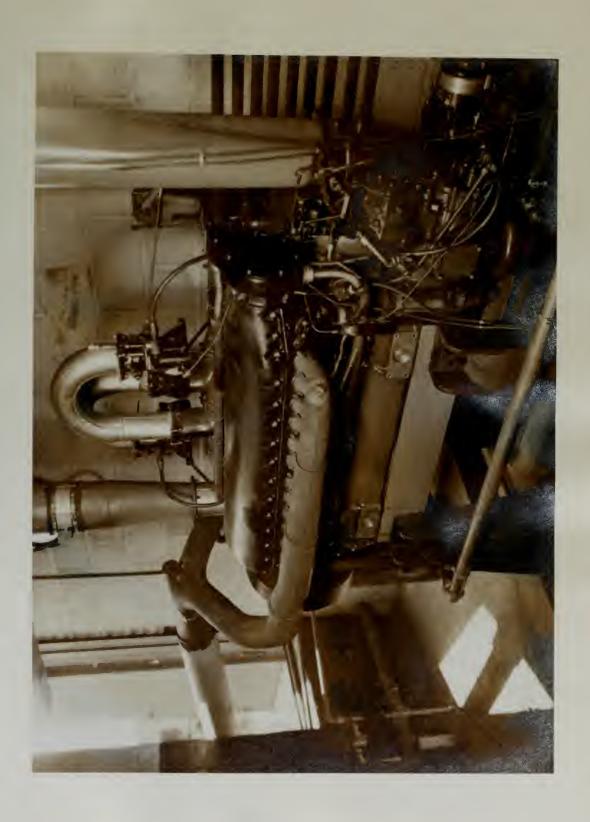


Fig. 8



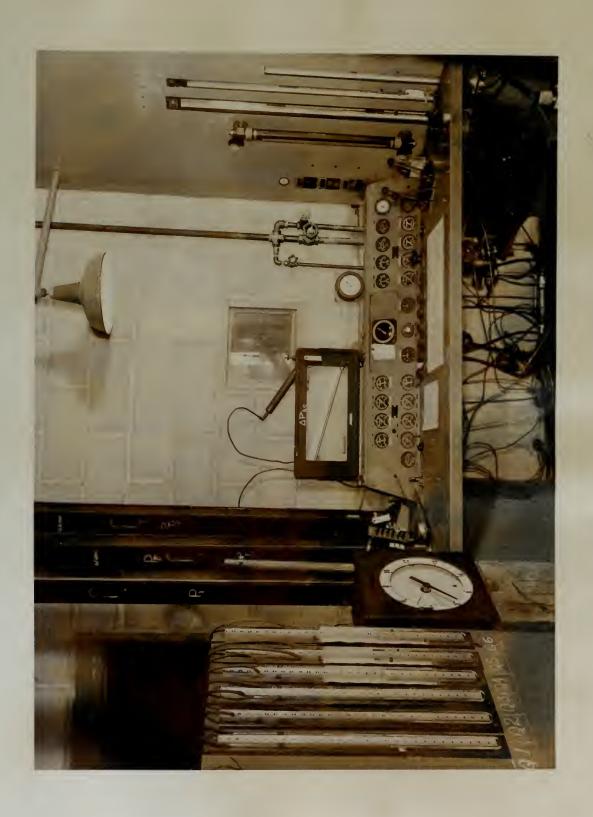


Fig. 9



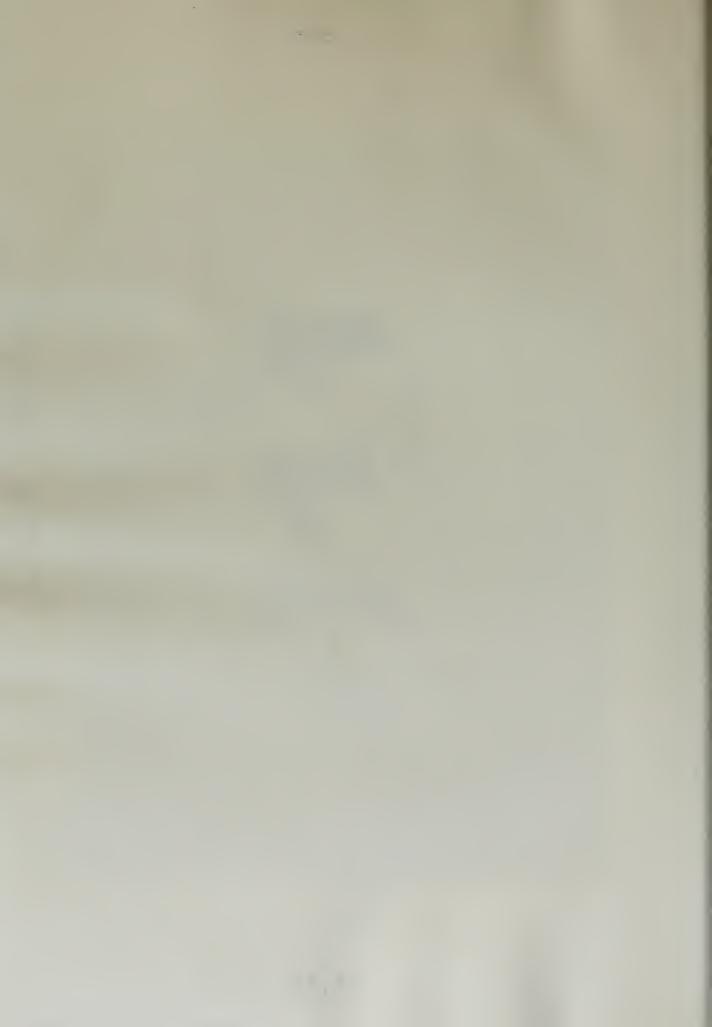


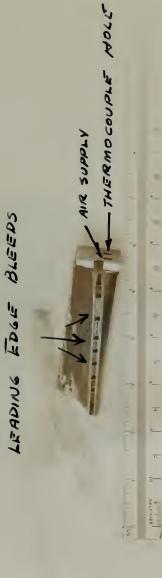
Fig. 10











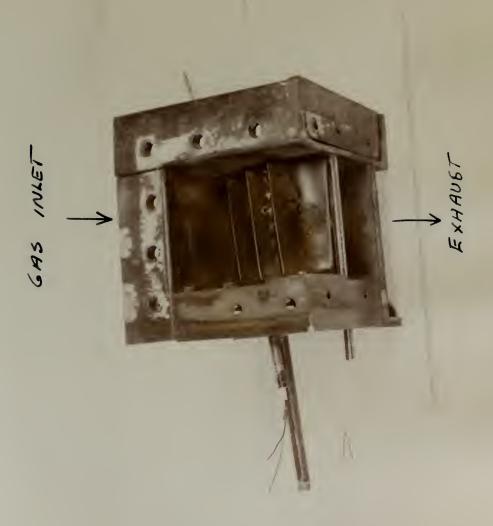


Fig. 13

C- COOLING AIR SUPPLY " BLEEDS THERMOCOUPLE -30-THERMOCOUPLE A- LEADING EDGE B-TRAILING EDGE

ä

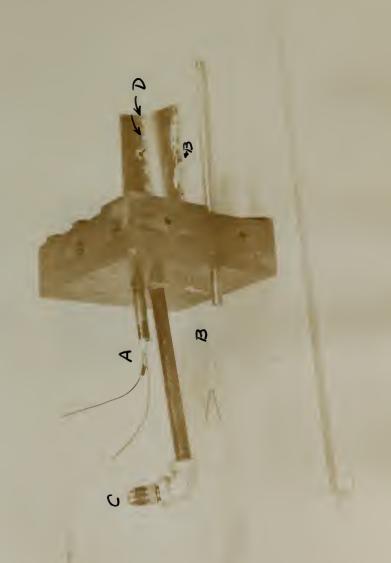
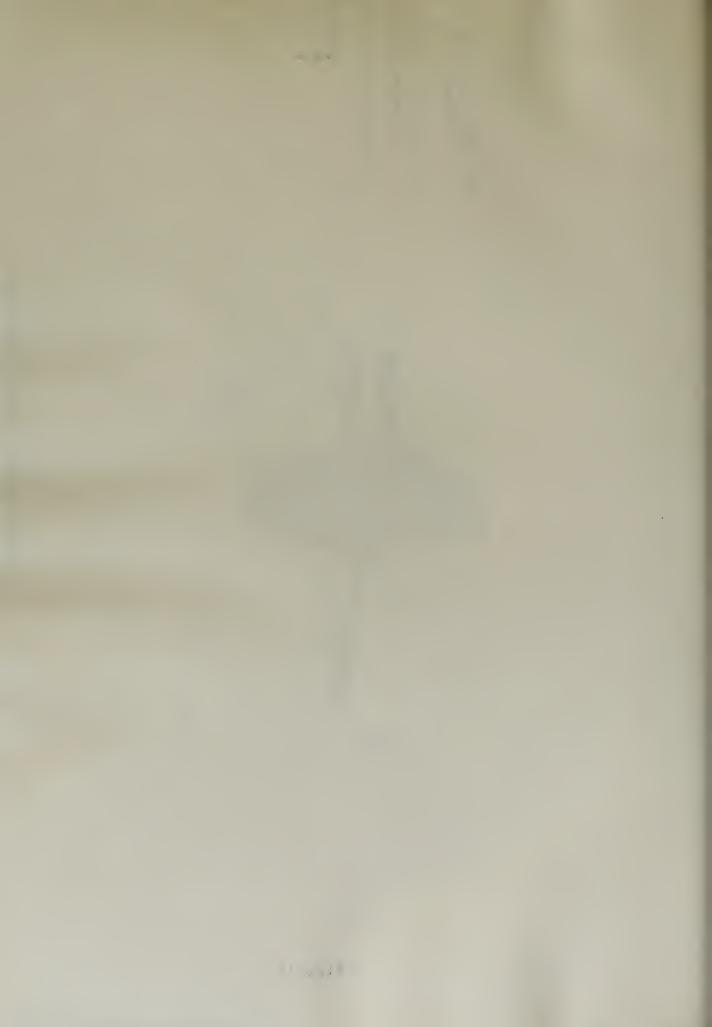
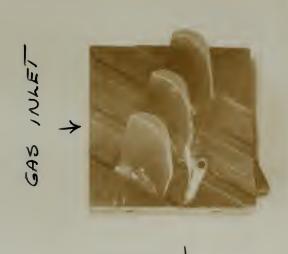


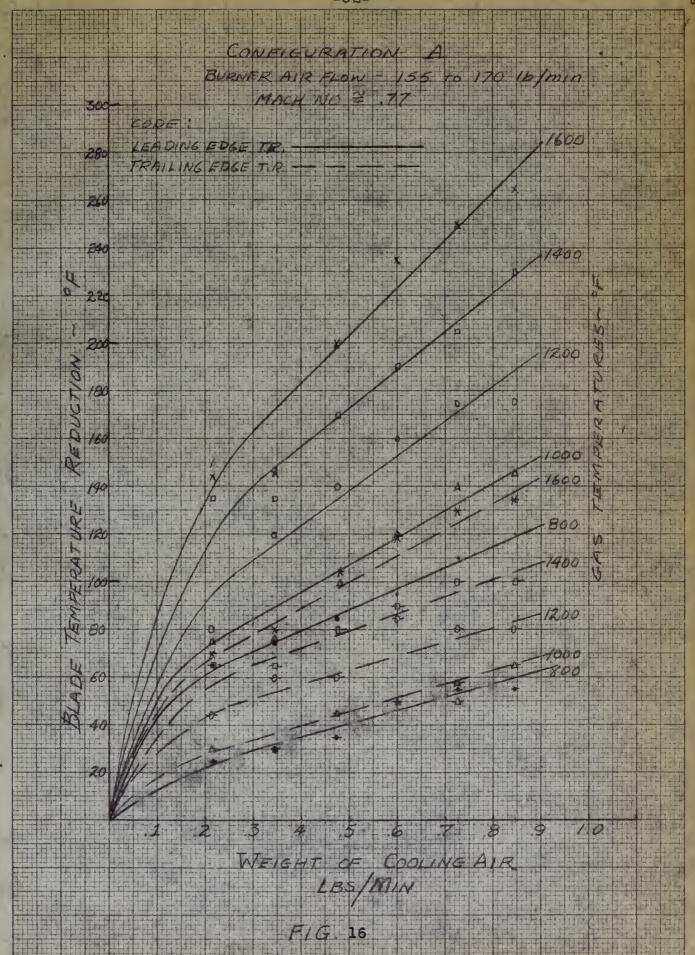
Fig. 14





EXHAUST





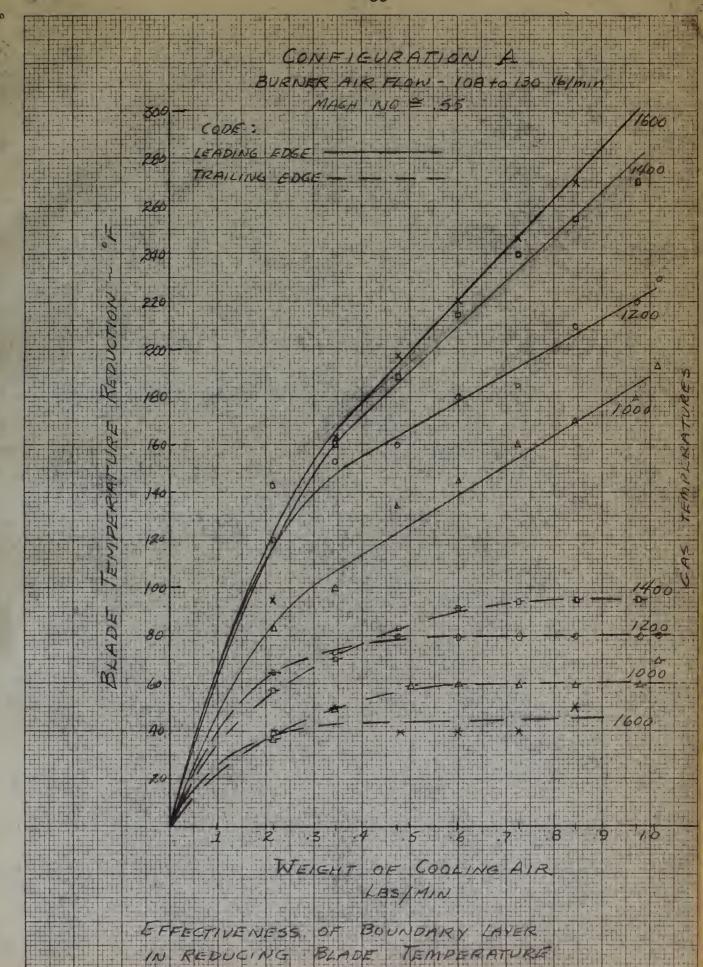
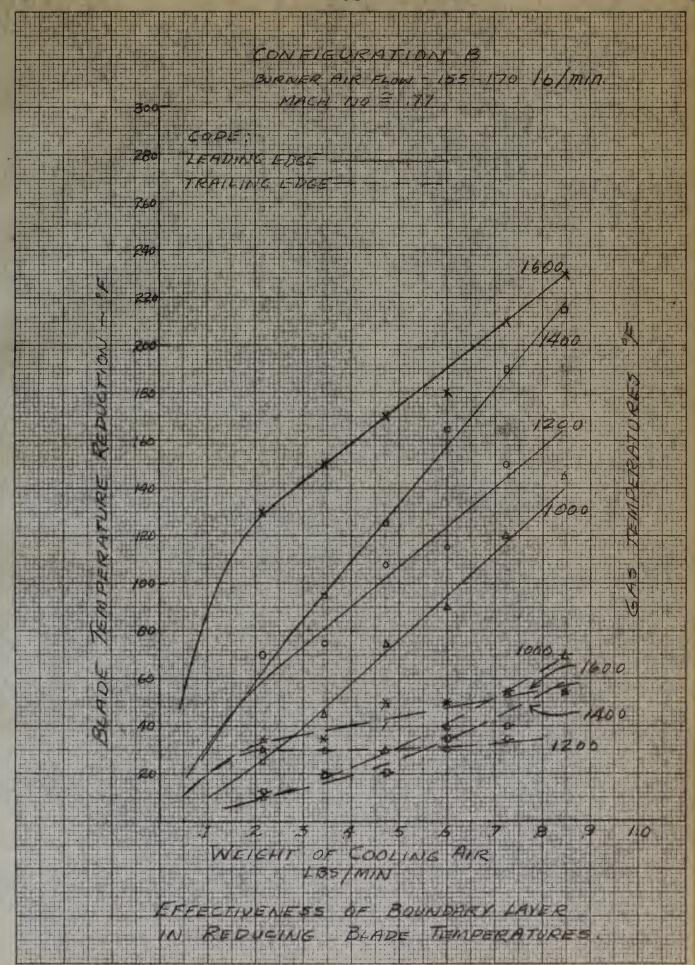


Fig 17







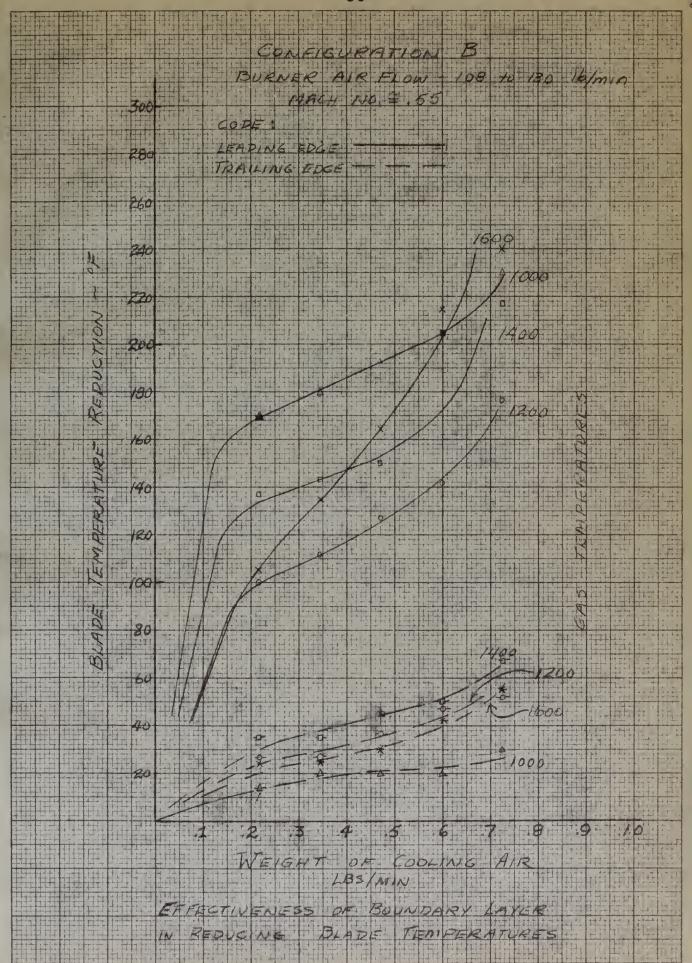
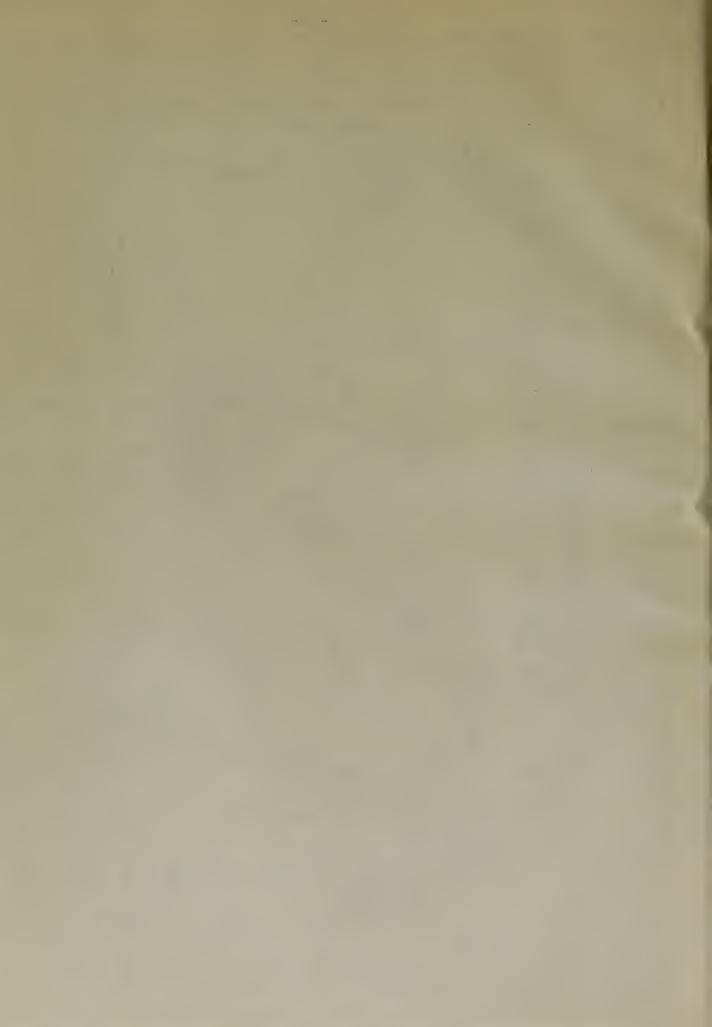
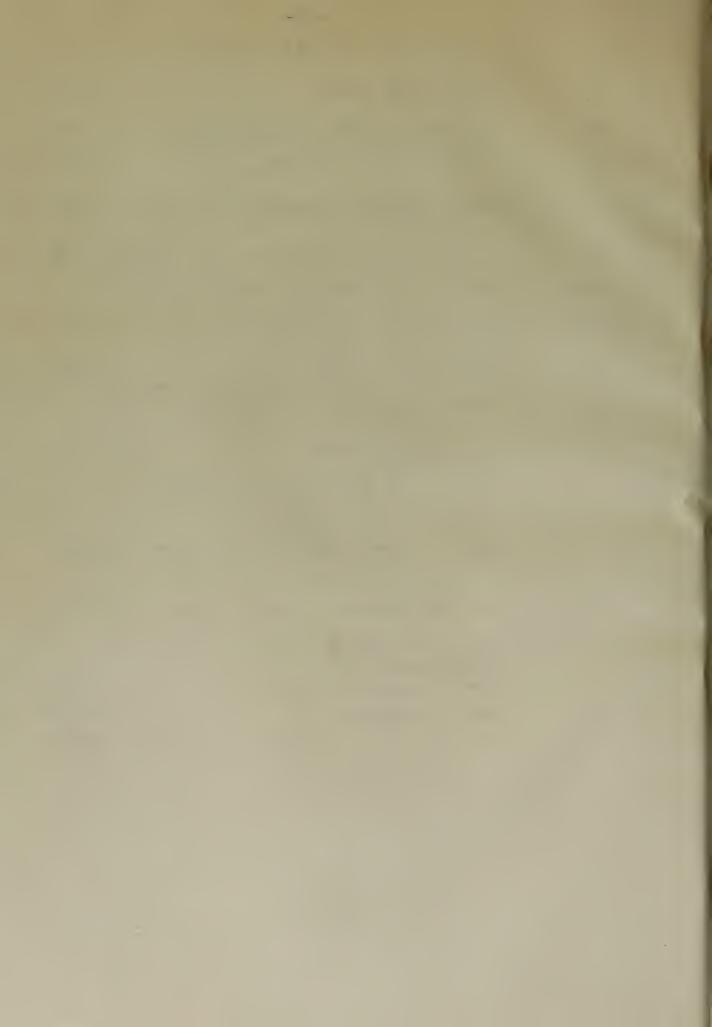


Fig. 19



NOMENCLATURE

Pt	FUEL PRESSURE	psig
P3	BURNER INNET STATIC PRESS	"ng
Pt3	" TOTAL "	11/15
P4	TEST SECTION STATIC "	"115
P±4	" " " " " "	"ng
DPCA	COOLING AIR ORIFICE PRESS DROP	"1120
APB4	BURNER " " "	"ny
F	DYNAMIC PREES	"ng
M4	TEST SECTION MACH NO.	
	TEMPERATURE SUBSCRIPTS: BLE BLADE LEADING EUGE BTE " TRAILING " M, P " ROST 9, E GAS, AFFE-TING HEAT TRA	OF N>FER
T.R.	TEMPERATJEE REDJETION	o F
ω -	NEIGHT FLOW SUBSCRIPTS: CA COOLING AIR BA BURNER " 4 " FUEL	10/min 16/5EC
	t " FUEL	16/12



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- (4) McAdams, W. H.; "Heat Transmission;" 2nd Ed., McGraw-Hill Book Co., 1942.

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- (1) Silverson, N. S., "Ann. Investmention of the Justines of the Justines of the Continue of t
 - (2) Settle, S. St. St. Sandfant out 100 Settle (2)
- (5) Stowart, T. M.; "Attraction Server on the off Operations Operated to Server of Ser
 - (4) Mathama, N. H.; "Heat Transmission" Heat No., Swinson-

SAMPLE CALCULATIONS

Air setering: With standard sharp edged orifice configuration with flange tape.

Gooling air,

$$W_a = .8595 \text{ K } D_2^2 \frac{(\Gamma_2 \cdot \Delta P)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{(\Gamma_a)^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$
 (ASME Power Test Code)

Ta = 80° F. Air supply temperature

Do 2 .75" Orifice diameter

D₁ = 2.07 Pipe diameter

K = .61 From Fig. 34(a) of ASAL Power Test Codes

absolute outlet static pressure

Δ ? * Orifice static pressure drop lb./in. 8

$$a_a = .8596 \times .61 \times (.75)^2 \quad (F_2 \times \Delta F)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

= .01268 (Pg x A) 2

P	F(pai)	72	Wa(1b./sec.)	a(1b./min.)
. 1	.0036	22.6	.00362	. 217
. 2	.0072	28.6	.00575	.345
.3	.0108	35.6	.00785	. 471
. 4	.0144	43.6	.01	, 60
. 5	.0180	50.6	.0121	.726
. 6	.0216	57.6	.0141	.846
.7	.0252	64.6	.0162	.972
.8	.0288	71.6	.0182	1.09

Burner air,

$$R_{BA} = .8596 \times 10^{10} \times 10^{10}$$

K = .704

Do # 5.6

Results are tabulated in Tables I and II.

SANISH CHARLESTERS

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Realts are tabulated in Tables I and II.

Mach. number:

M4 * Test section mach. no.

q * Test section dynamic pressure

8 = 1.3 for gas

P4 * Test section static pressure

Results are tabulated in Tables I and II.

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